

Too Early for Him.
In a western town not long ago the superintendent of a railroad was seated in his office very busily engaged in reading over his mail, when in walked a big, burly negro, according to the Buffalo Times. The superintendent looked up and said:
"How did you get in here past my office boy and clerks? You have a lot of assurance, coming in here without first sending in your name."
The negro spoke up and said there was no one in the office when he entered. The superintendent said:
"What do you want?" to which he replied:
"I am looking for work, and want it bad; am willing to go switching, or do anything."
The superintendent looked up and said:
"Do you drink?"
The negro replied: "It is a little early, isn't it?"—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Deepest Lake on Earth.
The deepest lake in the world is believed to be Lake Baikal in Siberia. Nine thousand square miles in area, or nearly as large as Lake Erie, it is 4,000 to 5,000 feet deep, so that it contains nearly as much water as Lake Superior.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS
CURES RHEUMATISM, BRUISES, BACKACHE, DIABETES, GRAVEL, GOUT, AND ALL KIDNEY DISEASES.
Solely Prepared by J. C. Dodd, Buffalo, N. Y.

MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT.
no matter how bad the weather you cannot afford to be without a TOWER'S WATERPROOF OILED SUIT OR SLICKER.
When you buy look for the SIGN OF THE FISH.

W. L. DOUGLAS
\$3.50 & \$3.00 Shoes
BEST IN THE WORLD
W. L. Douglas's \$4 Gilt Edge line cannot be equalled at any price.

SHOES FOR EVERYBODY AT ALL PRICES.
Men's Shoes, \$5 to \$10.00. Boys' Shoes, \$2.50 to \$5.00. Women's Shoes, \$2.50 to \$10.00. Children's Shoes, \$1.00 to \$5.00. Try W. L. Douglas's shoes for style, fit and wear. They excel other makes. If I could take you into my large factories at Brockton, Mass., and show you how carefully W. L. Douglas shoes are made, you would then understand why they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer, and are of greater value than any other make.

90,000,000 BUSHELS
That's the WHEAT CROP in Western Canada This Year

Free Farms - Big Crops
Low Taxes, Healthy Climate, good Churches and Schools, Splendid Railway Service.

YOU CANNOT CURE
all inflamed, ulcerated and catarrhal conditions of the mucous membrane such as nasal catarrh, uterine catarrh caused by feminine ills, sore throat, sore mouth or inflamed eyes by simply dosing the stomach.
Paxtine Toilet Antiseptic
which destroys the disease germs, checks discharges, stops pain, and heals the inflammation and soreness.
Send for Free Trial Box THE R. PAXTON CO., Boston, Mass.

PENSION
Solely Prepared by J. C. Dodd, Buffalo, N. Y.

AN AMERICAN ENGINEER.
One of the most remarkable stories of recent military history, one which is too little known in this country, is that of George F. Labram, of Detroit, who was killed in the defense of Kimberley in the Boer War. So much did his achievements have to do with the ultimate safety of the diamond camps that he received the thanks of the British government, and was referred to by Lord Roberts, as having done something unparalleled in modern warfare. Mr. Labram was, at the outbreak of the war, says a writer in the Century Magazine, chief engineer of the De Beers consolidated mines, a position to which he had succeeded after having installed American machinery there.

The Boers almost at once besieged the town. Mr. Labram, seeing that there was a considerable stock of cattle which probably could not long be kept grazing, and knowing that the meat would not keep more than a day, at once set about the construction of a large refrigerator plant, using, at Cecil Rhodes's direction, the shops of the company for material and apparatus. Without further assistance than the mining-camp could provide he accomplished this difficult feat. The cattle were slaughtered, and the flesh was kept sweet until needed. It supplied the garrison for many weeks.

When the Boers cut the mains which brought water to the city and thus threatened to drive out the garrison, Mr. Labram installed a pumping system, and secured an ample flow of water from a deep pit in one of the diamond-mines. To prevent night attacks, he improvised a number of huge search-lights, and mounted them on the corners of the fortifications, whence every night they swept the surrounding plains.

The siege had not continued long before the garrison began to run short of shells for their twelve seven-pounder guns. Shell-making is a highly specialized trade; but Mr. Labram, after examining a seven-pound shell, designed an entirely new missile of his own to fit the guns, and began in a short time turning them out of his machine-shop at the rate of sixty or seventy a day—shells so good that after an exhaustive test in service they were praised as "extraordinary" by military experts.

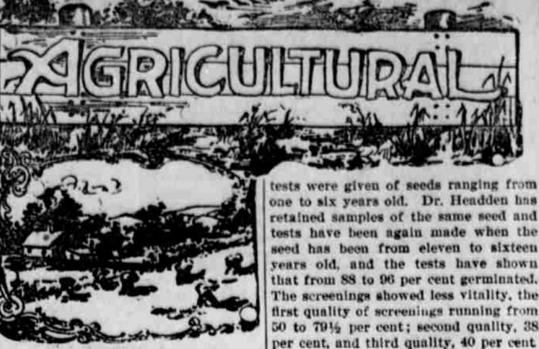
But ammunition for seven-pounders was not enough. The Boers soon brought up a huge Creuset cannon, of six-inch caliber, which was able to bombard the town from a long distance, and if not replied to, would soon have wiped out the defenders. Mr. Labram sat about constructing, with the facilities of the diamond-mine repair-shops, a cannon which would reply. From some steel billets designed for shafting and several bars of iron he built a four-inch breech-loading rifle of an excellent type. To complete this he had to design and build special machinery, and much of the work was done under fire. Nevertheless it was accomplished in twenty-four days. During the same time a quantity of twenty-eight-pound shells were made to use in the gun. The range of the rifle was more than eight thousand yards, and it successfully held the Boers back until the rescuers came. Mr. Labram himself did not live to see victory achieved. Less than a week before the relief came a shell from the Boer Creuset entered his room and killed him instantly. He was buried with military honors under fire from the enemy.

Lending His Hand.
The occasion on which Professor Faraway was invited to speak in public were times of great anxiety to his wife. If she succeeded in starting him for the platform properly clothed, and with his notes in his hand, part of her cares vanished, but not all of them. One evening her husband was one of seven distinguished professional men who were to speak before a scientific society consisting of men from all parts of the country.

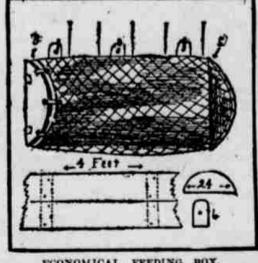
His speech was clear that night, free from the absent-minded murmurs which sometimes interspersed his discourse, and as he seated himself Mrs. Faraway felt that he had fully earned the burst of applause—and then her cheeks crimsoned.

"Did you see anything amusing about the close of my address, my dear?" asked the professor, as they started for home. "It seemed as if I heard sounds suggestive of merriment about me."
"I don't wonder," said Mrs. Faraway, who, up to that time, had maintained the silence of despair, "for of all the people who applauded your address, you with your head in the air and your chair tilted sideward, clapped the loudest and longest."

Where Palaces Are Cheap.
No more romantic places exist than the deserted cities of Italy. They are to be found all over the country, but chiefly in the March of Ancona and the old Grand Duchy of Tuscany. In these you may see great marble palaces to which a bit of string does duty as a bell-pull, and if you enter you find a corner of some grand salon, often with a ceiling by an illustrious artist, screened off for the inhabitants to live in. That inhabitant may be some Italian or English lady who has a very small income, and she may get such a palace, where some Cardinal or Marchese formerly lived, for a few pounds a year.



Economizing Green Food.
When green food is scarce or difficult to obtain it pays to plan some way so it will not be wasted. The following description is of a feeding box that works well. Cut two pieces for the ends, each twenty-four inches long, getting proper curve by using a compass. Make the back of the holder of thin boards four feet long and twenty-four inches wide and nail one end (figure 5) in place, hinging the other end, using small straps of leather to hold it shut. Cover the holder with coarse mesh wire netting and hang it in a convenient place high enough so the fowls cannot roost on it, yet so they can feed from it readily. Use hangers of wood, tin or leather as indicated in the cut at figure 6. This little feeding



box will enable the fowls to pick at the green stuff, whether it is clover, grass or chopped cabbage, without any danger of soiling or wasting it. Such conveniences are inexpensive, but save an immense amount of time, as well as food, so poultry keepers should use them whenever possible.—Indianapolis News.

To Kill Sassafras Roots.
Says one writer: Sassafras is one of the worst pests that some farmers have to contend with. It may be grubbed year after year and every root taken out that can be, and still there will be roots left that will sprout up, and even the sassafras will be thicker than ever, and the area of sassafras brush will be enlarged rather than diminished. No amount of grubbing will permanently rid a field of sassafras. The most successful method of fighting sassafras I have ever tried is to cut off the sprout at the top of the ground and to pasture with cattle and sheep until the pasture with the roots die. If the roots die, they will sprout, but if pastured close the roots die in a few years.

Hens Don't Like New Home.
Fowls are very fond of their homes and dislike being moved to new locations. If eggs are the object it is most important that birds should not be moved from pen to pen, as it will delay egg production and also diminish the supply. Pullets for early laying should, if possible, be brought up without sight of their future laying room or pen. On the contrary, if it is wished to delay the laying of a pullet, and to encourage growth for prize purposes, her home must be changed often. A sitting or broody hen may be interfered with by removing her to a new scene and fresh companions—a more reasonable and humane way of checking her maternal instincts than that of half-drowning her, shutting her up in darkness or resorting to other cruel methods.

Points on Raising Geese.
Have one gander to four geese, no more. Give them a good run. Do not try to change their nests, but let them set where they lay. Take first eggs and set under hens, as a goose will sometimes lay thirty to forty eggs in the season. Goslings should not be allowed to run in water or tall, wet grass, but should have a good grass run, grass that is short and green. Feed dried bread moistened with milk, cooked dry potatoes or cooked corn, cooked dry potatoes or cooked corn, cooked dry potatoes or cooked corn.

Canadian Wheat Crops.
The official Canadian spring wheat crop report forwarded by Consul J. H. Worman of Three Rivers shows the wheat acreage increased by 500,000 over last year's record. This raises Manitoba over the 3,000,000 mark for that cereal alone. The land sown to oats is 1,355,961 acres, an increase of 124,722, while the barley acreage has nearly reached 500,000, being, in fact, 474,242. The total increase in the grain acreage over last year is 615,830. The other crops also show an increased acreage.

Roup Remedy.
The fowls should be placed in a dry, warm and well ventilated house, and have plenty of fresh water and scalded bran or other light food. Take of finely pulverized, fresh-burnt charcoal and of new yeast each three parts, of pulverized two parts, of flour one and one-half as much pulverized cayenne as flour. Water enough to mix well and roll into balls or pills the size of a walnut, give one three times a day.

Vitality of Alfalfa Seed.
A remarkable test of the vitality of alfalfa seed is reported in bulletin No. 119 of the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station. It is generally considered that seed must be perfectly new in order to come up freely. In bulletin No. 35 of the experiment station, some

tests were given of seeds ranging from one to six years old. Dr. Hendden has retained samples of the same seed and tests have been again made when the seed has been from eleven to sixteen years old, and the tests have shown that from 88 to 96 per cent germinated. The screenings showed less vitality, the first quality of screenings running from 50 to 70 per cent; second quality, 28 per cent, and third quality, 40 per cent.

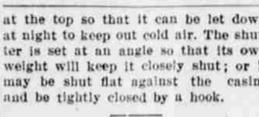
Cleansing Bark of Fruit Trees.
Every tree in an orchard should be washed at least twice a year with strong soapuds, but there will be no necessity for scraping them. The caterpillars should be destroyed as soon as the nests are seen, which will end large numbers with amazing rapidity; the escape of a single pair means thousands next season. One of the best assistants to an orchard is the little wren. If farmers will give him proper protection by constructing boxes with entrances so small that no bird but a wren can enter, the sparrow will be unable to drive it away. As the wren is an active and busy creature, it destroys a large number of insects in a very short time, and, as it increases rapidly under favorable circumstances, quite a large number of them may be secured and induced to remain in the orchard, if proper facilities are afforded for their protection and accommodation.

Locust Destroyers.
In Argentina, as in Africa and Asia, the locust is a name of dread, though not to anything like the same extent, and in South America there has arisen a hope of combatting the destroyer which may prove of enormous value in regions more liable to devastation. Large numbers of locusts were found dead and microscopic examination showed that they had been destroyed by a natural enemy—a species of fly which ate into the body of the locust, and there deposited its larva which developed into a life prodigiously multiplied. Experiments are now being made to test whether this fly can thrive in regions which are recognized as the incubating places of the locust. The Argentine agricultural department is breeding the flies for this purpose, though under effective control.

Point Spraying Saved \$22 per Acre.
In the efforts to make potato spraying popular among the farmers of the State, the New York experiment station at Geneva has been carrying on co-operative tests with farmers in all parts of the State. As a result of the spraying carried on by forty-one farmers on a total of 363 acres, the average gain due to spraying was fifty-eight bushels per acre, at a cost of about \$5 per acre, giving a net profit of about \$22 per acre, after paying the expense of spraying. As a result of this good work it is asserted that the practice of spraying is on the increase in New York.

Checks on Range.
The sooner you get the early hatch of chickens on open range the better it will be for them. It is pretty hard to teach brooder chickens not to go back to their original home after you want to take them away from the brooder and put them in the colony house. Either take the brooder out of sight, or move your chicks to another lot where they can't see it. Do not take them from the brooder until they have learned to get on without artificial heat, or they will huddle in the corners and do themselves an injury.

Shutter for Barn Window.
Sliding windows in a barn, such as are frequently used for throwing manure through, are hardly ever quite tight, and much cold air is often allowed to rush in upon the animals inside. The American Agriculturist suggests the use of this shutter, which is made of matched boards and hinged



at the top so that it can be let down at night to keep out cold air. The shutter is set at an angle so that its own weight will keep it closely shut; or it may be shut flat against the casing and be tightly closed by a hook.

Pumpkins for Lambs.
Pumpkins are good feed for lambs in the fall, especially when they are troubled with paper skin, caused by worms in the intestines. They will eat them if they are sliced or cut and sprinkled with salt, but it is better to provide flat-bottomed troughs with compartments, each being large enough to receive the half of a pumpkin cut in such fashion as to have the pieces lie flat with the inside uppermost.

Milking by Machinery.
In the dairy department of the agricultural college at Manhattan, Kan., they have for more than a year been successfully milking cows by machinery. The milking machine is a queer looking apparatus, driven by a gasoline engine. When one is fastened to a cow it milks away in spite of all the kicking and evorting the cow may do.

An Old Acquaintance.
It was the first meeting of the Shakespeare Reading Club for Working Girls, and the serious-minded young Englishwoman who had dealt out copies of "Hamlet" to the members awaited comments.
The first, says a writer in the London Daily News, came from a girl belonging to that immense army of "book-finders" so familiar to all frequenters of working girls' clubs.
"Oh, I know this well," she said, in a superior tone.
"Really!" said the pleased teacher.
"Is it your favorite play?"
The girl looked at her pityingly.
"Lor, I ain't read it!" she chuckled.
"We stock 'em at our place. I've 'ad 'undreds through my 'ands. 'Amiel? I'm sick to death of 'im!"

SICK FOR TEN YEARS.
Constant Backache, Dropsy and Severe Bladder Trouble.
Fred W. Harris, of Chestnut St., Jefferson, Ohio, says: "For over ten years I suffered from kidney disease. The third year my feet and hands would swell and remain puffed up for days at a time. I seemed to have a constant backache. Finally I got so bad that I was laid up in bed with several doctors in attendance. I thought surely I would die. I changed medicine and began using Doan's Kidney Pills when I was still in bed. The relief I found was so great that I kept on until I had taken about ten boxes. The kidney secretions became natural and after years of misery I was cured. I have increased in weight, and show no symptoms of my former trouble."
Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

He Had His Wish.
The late Carl Schurz had no consolation for hypocrites or pretenders. Upon literary pretenders he was particularly severe.
At a dinner in New York one night a man of wealth who had written a volume of poems sneered at politics.
"I wouldn't give a pica-yune," he said, "for a senatorship or a cabinet office. To be even President, wouldn't tempt me. I, for my part, would rather be known any day as a third rate poet than a first rate statesman."
"Well, aren't you?" said Mr. Schurz.

At the Conversation.
"See that man with the re-enforced forehead and prominent teeth? That's Mouldypast. He's more sought after by literary men and critics just now than any other man in the room."
"What for?"
"He claims to have unearthed an original manuscript from the pen of Martin Farquhar Tupper, author of 'Proverbial Philosophy.'"
"I see. They are trying to get him to suppress it?"

You Can Get Allen's Foot-Paste FREE.
Write to-day to Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y., for a FREE sample of Allen's Foot-Paste, a powder to shake into your shoes. It cures tired, sweating, hot, swollen, itching feet. It makes new or tight shoes easy. A certain cure for Corns and Bunions. All Drugstores and Shoe Stores sell it. 25c.

Decidedly.
In the restaurant business, are you? Haven't these—or—investigations made a difference in your trade?"
"I should say so! We're so busy I can't find time to eat my own meals. Ours is a vegetarian restaurant."

At the Night School.
"What do you understand," asked the instructor, "by the current newspaper phrase, 'government pork'?"
"That means," said the student with the bulging brow, "the hogs that fattens in the official sty."

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of
Dr. J. C. Hatcher
In Use For Over Thirty Years
CASTORIA
THE CENTRAL COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

Sale Ten Million Boxes a Year.
THE FAMILY'S FAVORITE MEDICINE
Cascarets
CANDY CATHARTIC
THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP
BEST FOR THE BOWELS

In the Nick of Time.
The plutocrat summoned his private secretary.
"Williams," he said, "you are familiar with all my affairs. I want you to make a rapid calculation showing as nearly as possible the amount of money I have wrung from the people over and above a fair, legitimate profit on the capital originally invested."
The private secretary did so and showed him the result.
"It's a great deal more than I thought," said the plutocrat, "but that makes no difference. I shall proceed now to formulate a plan for the immediate restitution to the people of the vast sum I have wrongfully—"
But here, with a violent effort, he shook himself and awoke. It was only a dream.
In Kansas.
"What's the pay?" asked the prospective hired man.
"Well," answered the farmer, "ye kin have \$0 a day an' three of my darter's kisses, or \$3 a day and six kisses. Suit yourself. As far as I'm concerned ye kin take it all out in kisses if ye've a mind to."—Houston Chronicle.
Great Britain maintains an army of from 80,000 to 80,000 whites in India continually.

THE WINNING STROKE
If more than ordinary skill in playing brings the honors of the game to the winning player, so exceptional merit in a remedy ensures the commendation of the well informed, and as a reasonable amount of outdoor life and recreation is conducive to the health and strength, so does a perfect laxative tend to one's improvement in cases of constipation, biliousness, headaches, etc. It is all important, however, in selecting a laxative, to choose one of known quality and excellence, like the ever pleasant Syrup of Figs, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., a laxative which sweetens and cleanses the system effectually, when a laxative is needed, without any unpleasant after effects, as it acts naturally and gently on the internal organs, simply assisting nature when nature needs assistance, without griping, irritating or debilitating the internal organs in any way, as it contains nothing of an objectionable or injurious nature. As the plants which are combined with the figs in the manufacture of Syrup of Figs are known to physicians to act most beneficially upon the system, the remedy has met with their general approval as a family laxative, a fact well worth considering in making purchases.
It is because of the fact that SYRUP OF FIGS is a remedy of known quality and excellence, and approved by physicians that has led to its use by so many millions of well informed people, who would not use any remedy of uncertain quality or inferior reputation. Every family should have a bottle of the genuine on hand at all times, to use when a laxative remedy is required. Please to remember that the genuine Syrup of Figs is for sale in bottles of one size only, by all reputable druggists, and that full name of the company—California Fig Syrup Co., is plainly printed on the front of every package. Regular price, 50c per bottle.
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
San Francisco, Cal.

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Color more vividly and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors all fibers. They dye in cold water better than any other dye. You can do it with one package. Write for free booklet—how to dye, bleach and mix colors.